

Airman Knowledge Test Changes and Updates

Effective October 28, 2013

Introduction

Airman knowledge tests and test questions are updated regularly. With each scheduled change, updated versions of all applicable testing-related documents are made available on our website at www.faa.gov/training_testing/testing. The test questions and documents published on our website are a representation of the exam content, not the actual questions you will encounter on your certification exam. The following information will assist you in preparing for your airman knowledge test and guide you through the interpretation of your airman knowledge test report. If you have any suggestions you think might be of interest to individuals preparing for the knowledge test, please email the Airman Testing Standards Branch at AFS630Comments@faa.gov.

Notice

We continue to see evidence that applicants in the testing environment are copying and/or removing testing materials, talking during testing, or using inappropriate aids while testing. We added a new notice that informs the applicant of the rules regarding cheating and unauthorized conduct as stated in 14 CFR parts 61, 63 and 65, and the repercussions for violating these rules. The applicant must check a box indicating that he/she has read and understands these rules before beginning the exam.

Learning Statement Reference Guide for Airman Knowledge Testing

(http://www.faa.gov/training_testing/testing/media/LearningStatementReferenceGuide.pdf)

What changed?

PLT284, Recall information on a Forecast Winds and Temperatures Aloft (FB)

Note: *Forecast Winds and Temperatures Aloft* was formerly referred to as “FD”.

What’s new?

There were no new learning statements created during this cycle. Refer to the link above for a complete list of learning statements.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is a learning statement?

The expression ‘learning statement,’ as used in airman testing, refers to measurable statements of knowledge that a student should be able to demonstrate following a defined element of training.

How is it used?

An applicant’s instructor is required to provide instruction on each of the areas of deficiency listed on the Airman Knowledge Test Report and to complete an endorsement of this instruction.

Is the FAA’s Learning Statement Reference Guide all-inclusive pertaining to the aeronautical knowledge areas in accordance with 14 CFR parts 61, 63, and 65?

No, learning statements listed in the guide only reflect areas tested on the written exams. The assessments are not designed to evaluate mastery of the intended learning outcomes of any specific class, course or education/training program.

Sample Questions Posted on the Internet

(http://www.faa.gov/training_testing/testing/test_questions/)

What changed?

As active questions are added and/or updated, the sample questions are also added and/or updated. It is possible that no change occurred within a specific item bank (i.e. Instrument Rating/Private Pilot, etc.)

What's new?

14 CFR part 117 sample internet questions, which become effective on January 4, 2014, are located under the heading 'Pilot' with the link name of *Airline Transport Pilot & Dispatcher New Questions (January 4, 2014)*.

Frequently Asked Questions

How often are sample internet questions changed?

Sample questions are changed when material becomes obsolete, new subject areas are introduced, special emphasis areas are changed, new handbooks are published, or any of a number of sources of feedback addressing aviation safety are received.

What is the purpose of sample questions?

Sample questions assist the applicant in preparing for the airman knowledge test by including current topics and relaying upcoming topic areas. They have an equivalent level of difficulty and basic structure as active questions, but are not included as actual test questions.

Airman Knowledge Test Sample Exams

(http://www.faa.gov/training_testing/testing/test_questions/)

What changed?

The links noted in the introduction of the sample exams were updated.

What's new?

There are no new sample exams for this cycle.

Frequently Asked Questions

Can I expect to have the exact same subject areas on my FAA exam?

Yes, subject areas are consistent among the same certification exams, but the number of questions in those areas may vary slightly.

Are questions shown on the sample exams posted on the internet representative of the questions asked on active exams?

No, sample exams broadly depict the general aeronautical knowledge areas (14 CFR parts 61, 63 and 65) and are not representative of every question asked on a given exam.

Airman Knowledge Test Guides

(http://www.faa.gov/training_testing/testing/test_guides/)

What changed?

Knowledge test questions are continually reviewed and possibly re-referenced; therefore, you can expect an updated test guide with the change of each cycle. This is especially true if a new or updated publication has recently been published. Knowledge test guides are placed on the internet approximately 3 weeks prior to the activation of the new material.

What's new?

- References and subject areas of 14 CFR part 117, which become effective on January 4, 2014, are included in the October 2013 version of the *Airline Transport Pilot Knowledge Test Guide (FAA-G-8082-1)*.
- Complete list of references has been added to the ATP knowledge test guide.

Next cycle

- Knowledge test guides will have a complete list references applicable to the certification level.
- Canadian Conversion certification exams will be included in applicable knowledge test guides.

Frequently Asked Questions

Is the information in the knowledge test guide for a specific certification pulled from the current testing material?

Yes, the Learning Statements, Reference, and Topic/Content/Specific identifications are current as of the date listed on the cover page. This information is updated with the change of each cycle.

Are the subject areas due to activate with the addition of 14 CFR part 117 material identified in the current ATP knowledge test guide?

Yes, as noted above in 'What's new?' you will find the reference and the specific identification tags in the current knowledge test guide located at

http://www.faa.gov/training_testing/testing/test_guides/media/airline_transport_pilot_aircraft_dispatcher_flight_navigator_ktg_oct2013.pdf

Computer Testing Supplements

(http://www.faa.gov/training_testing/testing/test_guides/)

What changed?

There are no supplement books that have changed during this period. (See ‘What’s new?’ below.)

What’s new?

The *Computer Testing Supplement for Recreational Pilot and Private Pilot (FAA-CT-8080-2E)* and the *Computer Testing Supplement for Sport Pilot (FAA-CT-8080-10A)* will be combined. The new supplement, named *Airman Knowledge Testing Supplement for Sport Pilot, Recreational Pilot, and Private Pilot (FAA-CT-8080-2F)*, will be activated in February 2014.

Frequently Asked Questions

When does the new Private Pilot/Sport Pilot supplement activate?

The new supplement will activate on February 10, 2014. Until that time you will be using the individual Private Pilot and Sport Pilot supplement books.

One of the sample questions refers to a figure. How can I find the correct graphic necessary to answer the question?

The supplement books are found under the heading ‘Computer Testing Supplements’ at http://www.faa.gov/training_testing/testing/test_questions/#cts. Click on the link to the supplement for the certification you are reviewing and locate the figure using the figure number noted on the question.
